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The Oxford Russian Dictionary

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Synopsis

With the fall of the Iron Curtain, the Russian language has exploded, responding to new idioms, terminology, and usage pouring in from the West. Anyone wishing to keep up with contemporary Russian will search existing dictionaries in vain for such words as "cash machine," "road rage," "mobile phone," and many other terms reflecting the rapidly changing reality in the former Soviet Union. This completely revised edition of The Oxford Russian Dictionary is the first to incorporate those changes. Offering a comprehensive look at both languages, it includes over 185,000 words and phrases and 290,000 translations. The dictionary provides exceptional coverage of regional Russian, British, and American dialects as well as of modern idioms and colloquial usage, with numerous illustrative examples. It also includes all common abbreviations and acronyms, such as DTP, ROM, AIDS, and others; helpful advice on difficult points of grammar; and pronunciation in the International Phonetic Alphabet for every English headword, an indispensable aid for Russian speakers. Features include:  
- Over 185,000 words and phrases, and 290,000 translations to provide comprehensive coverage of contemporary Russian and English  
- All the latest vocabulary from "hyperinflation" to "multimedia" and from "cash machine" to "electronic security system" and "road rage"  
- Special emphasis on current idioms and colloquial usage with thousands of examples to illustrate their use  
- The latest business, computing, and specialist vocabulary along with common abbreviations and acronyms  
- Attractive layout to facilitate ease of use, improved typography, and Russian alphabet at the foot of each page  
Unsurpassed in convenience and in comprehensive, reliable coverage, this new edition of The Oxford Russian Dictionary will be the first choice for students, teachers, translators, and anyone who needs to keep abreast of the Russian language as it is spoken today.

Book Information

Hardcover: 1296 pages  
Publisher: Oxford University Press; 3 edition (July 27, 2000)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0198601603  
Product Dimensions: 10.4 x 2.4 x 7.9 inches  
Shipping Weight: 4.8 pounds  
Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars  
See all reviews (41 customer reviews)  
Best Sellers Rank: #1,260,016 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  #1001 in Books > Reference >
I would like to clarify some points mentioned below by other reviewers. First of all it is true that the Russian pronunciation is not given, but neither is it given in any other English-Russian dictionary that I know of, or, for that matter, in any Russian dictionary. This is because in Russian each sound is pronounced like it is written. So basically you have to learn the Russian alphabet. So this is not for real beginners. One can't blame the dictionary for this because it was created as an aid, not a teaching course. Still there are some grammatical rules you'll have to learn if you want to pronounce the Russian words correctly, not too difficult rules in my opinion. Basically it all comes down to the accent (very simple stuff). I will resist giving you examples and instead I will give you the websites where you can learn for yourself. If one wants to learn Russian from scratch (or almost from scratch) I recommend that he visits these two websites. They are free and they should be useful if the person wants to know if he really wants to pursue learning Russian before spending money on books, it will help him decide whether he is sure that he is serious about this. To recite the Russian alphabet: [...] Russian grammar and to learn how the letters of the Russian alphabet are pronounced in context: [...] After studying the above websites I would recommend, for the beginner, to buy books like "Russian Course, The New Penguin : A Complete Course for Beginners", or "Russian Stories (Russkie Rasskazy): A Dual-Language Book" if he is more advanced. Like with any language the real difficulty is memorizing and learning the actual words, not the grammar.

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